

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Why can't I wear blue jeans to the Warm Springs Correctional Facility?

A. This is a security issue and for the public's personal safety. Prison inmates wear blue jeans that allow security guards to readily distinguish between inmates and the public.

Q. Can we preview the horses available for adoption before the sale date?

A. No, since this is a prison facility horses cannot be viewed until the morning of the adoption.

Q. Do I have to be present to adopt a wild horse? Can I send my friend?

A. You must be present to adopt a wild horse. You cannot send a family member or a friend.

Q. What is the average sale price of horses trained by prison inmates?

A. Prices vary widely. The starting bid for any wild horse is \$150, and the bid can go as high as \$4,000. However, the average price is about \$800 to \$1,000 per animal. It really depends on how many people are interested in one particular animal and what they are looking for in an animal.

Q. How much training do the horses actually have?

A. These horses are green-broke which means they have received 120 days training by the prison inmates. These horses will continue to need daily training to reinforce the basics they have learned.

Q. What are the facility requirements?

A. Even though these horses are green broke, each horse should be kept in a pen no larger than 20' X 20' until the animal gets used to its new surroundings and you. The corral should be at least 5-feet high and of heavy duty construction using poles, pipes, or planks with at least 1 ½ inch thickness and without dangerous protrusions. Barbed wire and large-mesh-woven, stranded, and electric materials are unacceptable for fencing.

You must also provide shelter from inclement weather and temperature extremes for your adopted wild horse. The shelter must have, at a minimum, two sides with a roof, good drainage, adequate ventilation, and access for the animal. Tarps are not acceptable.

Q. Do I have to pick up the horse I adopt the day of the adoption?

- A. BLM prefers you take the horse home that day, but special arrangements can be made with the prison to pick up the animal in a couple of days.

Q. Can the public continue to have horses trained at prison?

- A. Yes, but you need to make arrangements with Hank Curry, who works for the prison to get on a waiting list. It could take up to one year to get your animal into the training program. Training usually runs about \$500 per month for training and feed.

Q. What are the BLM's trailer requirements for hauling my horse home?

- A. BLM requires stock-type trailers that meet the following minimum requirements:
- Covered top, sturdy walls and floors, and a smooth interior, free from any sharp protrusions. **TWO-HORSE TRAILERS ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE.**
 - Removable partitions or compartments to separate animals by size and sex, if necessary,
 - Rear swing gate only; no drop-ramps are allowed,
 - Trucks with stock racks are not acceptable,
 - Ample head room,
 - Floor covered with a non-skid material,
 - Adequate ventilation,
 - BLM personnel will inspect the safety of each trailer and reserve the right to refuse loading if the trailer is unacceptable.

Q. What kind of training methods are used at the prison?

- A. Least-resistance training (what comes natural to the horse).

Q. How many horses does BLM in Nevada have trained per year?

- A. The Warm Springs Correctional Facility trains about 45-60 animals per year (15 per quarter) for the BLM. More animals are not trained due to the size of the facility and the expense involved in training a wild horse.

Q. What is the average size of a wild horse?

- A. Wild horses are generally 14.2 hands. The common colors of wild horses are sorrels, bays, and browns. Occasionally, we have grays, duns, roans, and paints.

Interested adopters can find a catalog posted on the BLM Nevada web site (<http://www.nv.blm.gov/whbpairs>) one month prior to the adoption event. The catalog includes a description and photograph of each animal and a short paragraph on the animals training progress.

Q. Where can I obtain an adoption application?

- A. You should call your local BLM Office and request an adoption application or you can print an application from the internet at: <http://wildhorseandburro.blm.gov>.

Q. Can we have our adoption application pre-approved?

- A. Yes, but BLM encourages interested adopters to fill out an application at the prison the day of the adoption.

Q. Does BLM accept personal checks? What other types of payment are accepted?

- A. The BLM accepts personal checks, money orders, American Express, Discover, VISA, MasterCard, travelers' checks, and cash as payment for adoption fees.

Q. When is next adoption?

- A. Adoptions at the prison are usually held quarterly.

Q. How many people show up to adopt at each event?

- A. The number of interested adopters has continually grown since the Warm Springs Correction Facility started training wild horses in 2000. Approximately 100 potential adopters showed up at the last prison adoption.

Q. What can I do if my horse has trouble adjusting to his new home?

- A. Arrangements can be made to provide your horse with some additional training at no cost to you at the Warm Springs Correctional center by calling (775) 861-6469.

Q. Can I obtain a refund credit or exchange my horse for a different horse?

- A. No refunds, credits, or exchanges will be approved. However, arrangements may be made for additional training for your horse at no cost to you.

Q. Will my horse come with a health certificate?

- A. Each horse offered for adoption will be vaccinated against common equine diseases and will be tested to assure he does not have equine infectious anemia. Vaccinations and blood tests will be current at the time you adopt your horse. The brand inspector will be on hand to provide you with a brand inspection certificate/transportation permit. If you will be transporting your horse outside Nevada, a certified veterinarian will also provide you with a health certificate. Both inspections are provided at no cost to the adopter.